20 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Benjamin C. Evans, Jr.

**Executive Secretary** 

SUBJECT : The RAND Corporation Invitation

My own feelings about the propriety or wisdom about the DCI's accepting the RAND Corporation's invitation to a reception and dinner on 11 April are mixed. Since RAND is a private, profit-making corporation actively seeking additional government business (i.e., contracts), there are legitimate questions involved in senior government officials accepting the Corporation's hospitality. Furthermore, the Corporation -even if its intentions are basically honorable -- cannot fail to benefit from a setting in which there are a number of top level government officials present since each of the latter might be instinctively inclined to think that the presence of the others was symbolic of official endorsement of RAND ventures. On the other hand, RAND has done a lot of business for the Defense Department and some for the Agency, hence, the invitation is not altogether inappropriate. My own suggestion would be to do a little discreet homework to find out who else has received such an invitation (e.g., the Secretary of Defense) and whether other recipients plan to accept. The DCI should not stick out if he goes but at the same time if many other top level officials are planning to go his absence might be unnecessarily conspicuous.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

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DONALD B. RICE President

March 11, 1974

The Honorable William Colby Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

The Annual Meeting of the Rand Board of Trustees will be held next month in Washington, D.C. As is our custom, we plan to take that opportunity to arrange an informal dinner with a group of policy level government officials. Since Rand is a private, nonprofit, public service institution, the Board feels that such an informal occasion for discussion with Rand clients and other officials is an important aid in discharging trusteeship responsibilities.

I hope that you can join the Rand Board members and officers the evening of Thursday, April 11th, at The Embassy Row Hotel. The reception will start at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. There will be no formal speeches or program.

Enclosed is a list of our Board members and officers. If previous years are a guide, we can expect a like number of appointed officials and senior military officers to join us for the evening.

Realizing that your schedule is full and dynamic, I would appreciate very much hearing whether or not you anticipate being able to join us.

I look forward to seeing you on April 11th.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

## Approved For Release 2004/12/02 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000900090064-0 RAND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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